

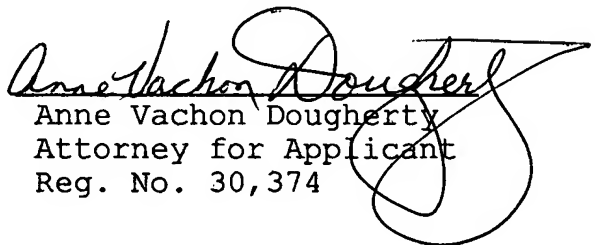
REMARKS

Applicants are canceling the claims which have been allowed in the parent application.

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants are correcting the dependency of Claim 13 to depend from Claim 12.

Applicants respectfully request prosecution of Claims 11-24.

Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED UP CLAIM WITH AMENDMENT SHOWN

13. (Amended) The method of Claim [2] 12 further comprising the step of maintaining a bag buffer in the program and wherein the retrieving step comprises the steps of:

searching, in the bag buffer, for input values associated with the input variables;

updating, if found, the input variables with the input values;

disposing, in an input buffer, the input variables, if not found; and

optionally notifying the user via electronic means if no suitable values are found in the bag buffer.